



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

5 In re Application of: Chong et al.

Docket No.: NNEX0002

Serial No.: 09/979,551

Art Unit: 2829

Filed: 21 November 2001

Examiner: Hollington, Jermele M.

Title: Massively Parallel Interface for Electronic Circuits

10 December 2003

15 Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment
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Washington, DC 20231

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20 **AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

25 This is in response to the Office Action filed by the Examiner, which was mailed to Applicant on 10 September 2003, for the above-identified patent application. Applicant considers this document to be filed in a timely manner.

30 The Application, as originally filed, comprised 78 total claims, with 4 independent claims. Currently, there are 47 total claims withdrawn, having 2 independent claims withdrawn. This Amendment comprises 30 new claims, having 2 new independent claims, such that the Application currently comprises 61 total claims, with 4 independent claims. Applicant therefore submits that no fees are currently due for the newly entered claims.

35 A telephone interview was conducted between the Examiner, Jermele M. Hollington, Applicant's Representative and Patent Agent, Donald M. Hendricks, and Douglas N. Modlin, a consultant for the Applicant, on Wednesday, 10 December 2003, to discuss the present invention, the cited art of Higgins et al and Smith et al, the present objections to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a), and the present rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, 35 U.S.C. §102(b), and 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

The Applicant's Representative started the interview by explaining the Applicant's invention, and the relevant steps to achieve what the applicants consider to be the invention. The Applicant's Representative also explained what differentiates the current application from the prior art of record, as currently presented in the claims, as amended.

- 5 The Applicant's Representative also briefly described the claimed structure of new independent Claim 79 and independent Claim 95, in view of the currently elected claim species, and in view of the cited prior art.

- 10 An agreement was reached with the Examiner that the proposed amendments to the Specification, the Drawings, and the Claims have overcome the present objections under 37 CFR 1.83(a), the present rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, the present rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) to Higgins, and the present rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) to Higgins et al in view of Smith et al.

- 15 The Examiner will await the Applicant's Amendment for further consideration of the amended claims.